REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested for claims 1-12.

Claims 4-6 and 10-12 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Because the claims from which claims 4-6 and 10-12 depend are submitted to be allowable, the applicants decline, for the time being, to rewrite claims 4-6 and 10-12 in independent form.

The disclosure was objected to on the basis of various informalities. The informalities have been addressed and withdrawal of the objection is cordially urged.

Claims 1-3 and 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by SE 505 856 (SE '856). Claim 1, from which claims 2-12 depend, as amended, defines a vibrating aggregate for vibrating a piece attached thereto. The aggregate comprises a shaft, an eccentric mass connected eccentrically to the shaft, and transmission arrangements for driving the shaft. The shaft includes at each end thereof a shaft section mounted by means of a bearing in a piece to be vibrated, the shaft sections each being detachably connected to respective ends of the shaft by a joint, the joint being adapted to transmit torque moment, the joint being rigid and adapted to transmit bending moment.

SE '856 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,220,846 and FR 2 668 960.
FR 2 668 960 was discussed in the Background Art portion of the present application. In the copy of FIG. 1 of SE '856 as marked up by the Examiner in the Official Action, the part "B" is not connected to the vibrated part "P" through bearings. Also, part "B" is not a connecting shaft but, rather, is an eccentric weight. The shaft 4 extending through the weight B is connected to the part P through bearings but no portion of the shaft 4 is

detachable from another portion. FIG. 1 of SE '856 does not disclose or suggest the features or combination of features recited in claim 1 and, accordingly, claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom are not anticipated by and define patentably over SE '856.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims, claims 1-12, are in condition for allowance. Allowance is cordially urged.

If the Examiner should be of the opinion that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly amend the Specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph at Page 1, line 4, with the following:

--The invention concerns a vibrating aggregate [according to the preamble of claim 1].--..

Replace the paragraph at Page 3, lines 2-4, with the following:

--[A vibrating aggregate according to claim 1 has now been invented.] In a vibrating aggregate according to the invention the joint between the shaft sections is rigid and without a clearance, and it transmits not only torque movement but also bending moment.--.

Replace the paragraph at Page 3, lines 28-29, with the following:

--[Figures 4-7 show different joint alternatives seen from the side and from the end of the shaft.] Figure 4a is a schematic side view of a joint between shaft sections according to an embodiment of the present invention, and Figure 4b is an end view of a joint portion of a shaft section of Fig. 4a;

Figure 5a is a schematic side view of a joint between shaft sections according to an embodiment of the present invention, and Figure 5b is an end view of a joint portion of a shaft section of Fig. 5a;

Figure 6a is a schematic side view of a joint between shaft sections according to an embodiment of the present invention, and Figure 6b is an end view of the shaft section of Fig. 6a;

Figure 7 is a schematic side view of a flanged joint between shaft sections according to an embodiment of the present invention.--.

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate for vibrating a piece attached thereto, [which] the aggregate [includes] comprising:

a shaft [(1, 2),] ;

an eccentric mass connected [thereto] eccentrically to the shaft; and

transmission arrangements for driving the shaft [, whereby] ;

the shaft including at each end thereof a shaft section [(2) located at both ends of the shaft and] mounted by means of a bearing in [the] a piece to be vibrated [is] , the shaft sections each being detachably connected to [the ends] respective ends of the [connecting] shaft [(1) connecting the shaft sections] by a joint [(3) transmitting] , the joint being adapted to transmit torque moment, [characterized in that] the joint [(3) between the shaft section (2) mounted by means of a bearing in the piece to be vibrated and the connecting shaft (1) is] being rigid and [transmits therefore] adapted to transmit bending moment [as well].

2. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 1, [characterized in that the] wherein each joint [(3) between the shaft section (2) mounted by means of a bearing in the piece to be vibrated] and the connecting shaft [(1) has] have counter surfaces in contact with each other.

3. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 2, [characterized in that the] wherein, for each joint [(3) between the shaft section (2) mounted by means of a

bearing in the piece to be vibrated] and the connecting shaft [(1) has] , a recess is provided at [the] an end of one [part] of the joint and the connecting shaft and a projection [(3) that can be inserted] insertable into the recess is provided at [the] an end of the other [part] one of hte joint and the connecting shaft.

4. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 3, [characterized in that] wherein the recess tapers towards its bottom and the projection [(3)] tapers towards its point.

5. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 4, [characterized in that] wherein the joint [(3)] is shaped like a cone [joint].

6. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 4, [characterized in that] wherein the joint [(3)] is shaped like a pyramid [joint].

7. (Twice Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 1, [characterized in that the joint (3) is locked by means of] further comprising an axial screw [(6)] for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

8. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 2, [characterized in that the joint (3) is locked by means of] further comprising an axial screw [(6)] for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

9. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 3, [characterized in that the joint (3) is locked by means of] further comprising an axial screw [(6)] for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

10. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 4, [characterized in that the joint (3) is locked by means of] further comprising an axial screw [(6)] for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

11. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 5, [characterized in that the joint (3) is locked by means of] further comprising an axial screw [(6)] for locking the joint relative to the shaft.

12. (Amended) A vibrating aggregate as claimed in claim 6, [characterized in that the joint (3) is locked by means of] further comprising an axial screw [(6)] for locking the joint relative to the shaft.